

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-14 (Canceled)

15. (New) A method for temperature management in a network, wherein control devices exchange data via the network using transmitting/receiving units and the temperature is measured at at least one control device, the method comprising the acts of:

measuring the temperature at the transmitting/receiving unit of at least one control device;

switching off the transmitting/receiving unit as soon as the temperature at the transmitting/receiving unit of the control device exceeds a predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$ ;

blocking wakeup requests put onto the network via the control devices as soon as the temperature at the transmitting/receiving unit of the control device exceeds a predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$ ;

canceling the blocking of the wakeup requests as soon as the temperature of the transmitting/receiving unit has dropped to a temperature below the predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$  and below a predefined threshold value temperature  $T_{th}$  within a predefined time period, wherein the threshold value temperature  $T_{th}$  lies below the critical temperature  $T_{krit}$ ; and

placing the at least one control device in an energy saving mode as soon as the temperature of the transmitting/receiving unit exceeds the predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$ .

16. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the at least one control device is placed in an energy saving mode in which the wakeup standby mode of the control device and the temperature measurement at the transmitting/receiving unit of the at least one control device are ensured.

17. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein when a predefined temperature  $T_{krit}$ , which lies below the predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$  and above a predefined threshold valve temperature  $T_{th}$  is reached, a driver external service points and the control devices are informed about possible overheating and/or preventive protective measures are taken.

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the preventive protective measures include

activation of an automatic air conditioning system;

deactivation of heat sources;

activation of heat protection means; or

activation of an emergency operating function of a control device which can be used without a network functionality.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the control device is placed in a standby mode, or switched off, if the temperature of the

transmitting/receiving unit is above the critical temperature  $T_{krit}$  or equal to the critical temperature  $T_{krit}$  during a predefined time period.

20. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the network is configured as an optical data bus network with an electric wakeup line, and the wakeup requests are blocked by connecting the wakeup line to ground.

21. (New) A method for temperature management in a network, wherein control devices exchange data via the network using transmitting/receiving units and the temperature is measured at at least one control device, the method comprising the acts of:

measuring the temperature at the transmitting/receiving unit of at least one control device;

switching off the transmitting/receiving unit as soon as the temperature at the transmitting/receiving unit of the control device exceeds a predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$ ;

blocking wakeup requests put onto the network via the control devices as soon as the temperature at the transmitting/receiving unit of the control device exceeds a predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$ ;

canceling the blocking of the wakeup requests as soon as the temperature of the transmitting/receiving unit has dropped to a temperature below the predefined critical temperature  $T_{krit}$  and below a predefined threshold value temperature  $T_{th}$  within a predefined time period, wherein the threshold value temperature  $T_{th}$  lies below the critical temperature  $T_{krit}$ ; and

storing a fault code for diagnostic purpose when the critical temperature  $T_{krit}$  is reached.

22. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the critical temperature  $T_{krit}$  corresponds to the maximum operating temperature of the transmitting/receiving units.

23. (New) The use of the method as claimed in claim 15 in a data bus system using ring topology.